COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, March 31st, 1884.

The Board of Aldermen met in the City Hall. Present: Mayor Hyman, Alds. Birrell, Labatt, Hunt, O'Meara, Beattie, Cowan, Skinner, Scarrow, Stringer, Niven, Becher, and A. S. Abbott, city clerk.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Joseph Grove—Having received notice that my application for exemption of taxes and free water has been passed by your honorable body, I beg leave to tender my thanks, trusting that the corporation of the City of London will ever foster new industries. Filed.

A. Isaac, clerk of London East—Notice of the appointment of a committee re Adelaide street bridge repairs. No. 2, with power.

Wm Henderson—Asking permission to tap sewer on Sydenham street, in order to drain a dwelling at corner of George street. No. 2, power.

M. Masuret and others—Asking for an asphalt walk between Princess and Dufferin avenues on Wellington street. No. 2.

John Christie and others—Asking for a tile sewer on Waterloo street between Princess avenue and Carling's Creek. No 2

B. J. Harrington, corresponding secretary, Montreal—In reference to the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. No 1.

Jas. Logan and nineteen others—Asking that Queen's avenue between Colborne and William streets be not watered. No 3

W. M. Spencer, secretary Imperial Oil Company—Asking that the head offices, if located in the city, be exempt from taxes for ten years, or that the taxation be merely nominal. No. 1.

Geo. F. Jewell, sec.-treas. Thames Flood Relief Committee—Copy of audited statement of all accounts. Filed.

F. E Leonard—Offering a lot 136x204 feet, corner Grosvenor and Wellington streets, for a gravel pit at $1,600, offer good for ten days. No. 2.

Jas. Mitcheltree—Offer of a gravel pit lot for $1,000. No. 2.

Thos Churcher and others—Asking that Clarence street, from Simcoe to the river be graded. No. 2.

Alex. Harvey—Protesting against erecting an embankment at east end of Oxford bridge, as it will cause the flooding of his property. Bridge Committee.

Residents west side of Richmond street—Petition for stone pavement between York and Dundas. No. 2.

Andrew Keefe—In reference to taxes. No. 1.

City Solicitor relative to bylaws to be submitted. Filed.

INVITING DIGNITARIES.

Messrs. Jas. Watson and Co., Levs, on behalf of the Western Fair Board, addressed the Council, asking that the corporation invite the Governor-General and Lietenant-Governor of Ontario to attend two days of the fair week. The Fair Board would share in the expense of entertainment.

Ald. Cowan moved and Ald. Hunt seconded that the Governor-General and lady and the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario be invited to visit the city and attend the Fair on Sept 24 and 25, the question of the city's share of expenses to be referred to No. 1 Committee to report funds in case the invitation be accepted. Carried.

ELECTING OFFICIALS.

A bylaw was submitted providing that in all appointments to office made by the Council the vote shall be by ballot.

A letter was read from the City Solicitor stating that he thought the validity of the bylaw was doubtful, as the people have a right to know the actions of their representatives; further, that it would be inoperative, as yeas and nays could be called on any vote. On the second reading the bylaw was deferred for six months.

A TREE INSPECTOR.

A bylaw was introduced amending sections 161 and 164 of the bylaws, making James Grant, Victoria Park caretaker, tree inspector, instead of the Street Commissioner, and containing regulations regarding trees and boulevards. Read three times and passed.

PROHIBITING CERTAIN NOISES.

Bylaw introduced prohibiting steam whistling by locomotives for the purpose of signaling, making up trains or for purposes other than those authorized by the Dominion Parliament or the Ontario Legislature; also forbidding the whistling of stationary engines. Alarm whistles, in case of fire, collision, etc., are permitted. Penalty not more than $50; 21 days in default. Read three times and passed. Bylaw to operate from May 1.

ENCOURAGING TREE PLANTING.

Bylaw introduced providing that a bonus of 25 cents be paid for each shade tree planted in the city under the provisions of the "Ontario Tree Planting Act" and in accordance with local regulations. Read first time

Ald. Becher objected on the ground that the city would incur heavy expense and moved that the bylaw be read six months hence. No seconder. Bylaw read second time.

Ald. Hewitt said the Government would pay back to the city one-half the bonus.

In amendment to the third reading, Ald. Becher moved, and Ald. O'Meara seconded, that the expenditure growing out of the bylaw do not exceed $1,000 per year. Lost, and bylaw read third time.

ENCOURAGING MANUFACTURE.

Bylaw submitted exempting the establishment of Joseph Grove from taxation for five years, on condition that he employ at least fifteen hands in the manufacture of fire proof safes and locks, exemption to date from January 1 last. It also authorized the

Water Commissioners to grant free water for a similar term. Passed.

SIXTH REPORT NUMBER THREE COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Hunt, chairman—

1. Payment of the $4 account of Thos. P. Comeskey, for adjusting market scales.

2 That a desk be placed in Covent Garden Market House at a cost of $40.

3 Progress re House of Refuge for aged and friendless.

4. Your committee submit terms upon which a contract for five years for a supply of gas for street lighting and other purposes can be obtained from the City Gas Company, and recommend the same for adoption, and that the bylaw legalizing the same be passed.

5. Payment of Fire Department accounts, $904 07.

6 That the offer of John Fox to put in a new pair platform scales, to weigh 2 500 lbs, for the sum of $30 in cash and the old scales, be accepted.

7. That the committee be empowered to call for tenders for iron street lampposts, lantern glass, governor burners, etc.

8. That your committee be empowered to call for tenders for street watering.

All clauses except 4th (gas contract) passed. On this the Council went into Committee of the Whole, the Mayor in the chair. Ald. Hunt read the agreement, which was passed clause by clause. On motion, the agreement as a whole was passed. The committee then rose and reported. Their report was adopted by the Council, and the necessary bylaw was read and passed.

Ald. O'Meara asked if there was anything in the bylaw prohibiting the introduction of electric light.

Ald. Hunt said there was nothing in the agreement

SIXTH REPORT NUMBER TWO COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Hewett, chairman:—

1. Payment of accounts: Pay rolls, March 21, $130 72; March 27, $274 23; L. W. Crawford, repairs, $12 45; Screaton & Gibson, Clarence street sewer, $50; S. Hueston, flood damage, $23 59; Wm. Anthistle, stone, $150; Plastow Bros, plumbing, $91 25; total, $742 23.

2. Recommend the purchase of Chas. Bricklin's gravel pit, north Victoria, lots 8 to 12, and South Regent streets, lots 7 to 12, for $3,500, terms $500 cash and a mortgage to be assumed by the city of $3 000, payable in ten years at 6½ per cent. interest.

3. That tenders be called for asphalt walks, block pavements, paving stones lumber and repairs, nails, and sweeping block pavements.

First clause passed; second referred back to committee and third passed.

FIFTH REPORT NUMBER ONE COMMITTEE.

By Ald. Birrell, chairman.

1. Payment of the following accounts:

Fire Department—	
Pay sheet	$ 892 07
H. St. J. Dillon	12 00
Total	$ 904 07
Relief—	
Geo. McNeill	$ 324 50
W. C. Association	8 82
Total	$ 333 32
Committee No. 1	
Salaries, quarter March 31	$3,345 00
Rent, southern pound	12 50
E. H. Hordes	34 75
Total	$3,392 25
Bridge arbitration—	
S. F. Peters	$ 8 00
A. O. Graydon	4 00
Total	$ 12 00

COMMITTEE NUMBER TWO ACCOUNTS

Pay sheet March 21	$ 130 72
Pay sheet March 27	274 23
Pay sheet March 27	30 00
G. N. W. Telegraph Company	12 50
McBride & Boyd	91 21
W. Anthistle	150 00
S. Hueston	23 59
Screaton & Gibson	50 00
L. W. Crawford	12 45
T. P. Comiskey	4 00
Jas. Cassidy	2 50
Total	$1,031 23
Grand total	$5,627 87

2. Petition, Mrs. McDonough, granted by allowing rebate of $6 30, half taxes of 1883.

3. Petition, Mrs. Fortwood, granted by allowing rebate of half taxes, amounting to $16 20.

4. Petition, Jane Insell, granted by allowing rebate of $8 10, half of 1883 taxes.

5. Petition, Jane Loyd, granted by allowing rebate of $5 40, half of 1883 taxes.

6. Petitions of M. Connolly, M. A. Fleming, M. Small, M. Brown and M. Thompson, for tax remission, filed.

7. Petition, Y. M. C. A, for tax rebate, filed, committee having no jurisdiction.

8. Petition, John Donovan, re error in income tax, granted.

9. Progress, re petitions of Alex. Harvey, C. Greason. Mrs. Lawrence, E. Gillett, Mrs. Hyde, C. Bricklin, G. Edelson, C J Anderson.

10. Re clause 3 of your No. 2 Committee's report of March 17, your committee beg to report funds to the extent of $600 for necessary City Hall repairs.

11. Re clause 13 of your No. 3 Committee's report, March 17th. Your Committee, in view of other contemplated extraordinary expenditure of your No. 3 Committee, cannot "report funds" for the purchase of a No. 2 Hays' hook and ladder truck and keep the assessment for 1884 down to 20 mills on the dollar.

12. Your committee beg to recommend the Council to purchase local improvement debentures for block pavements or stone sidewalks put down under the "Local Improvement Act," said debentures to bear interest at the rate of 3 to 4 per cent, with sinking fund sufficient to pay at maturity, and that in each year during the currency of these debentures the general rate be charged with 1 or 2 per cent. on said debentures, such being the proportion to be paid by city for such improvement.

13. Your committee recommend that the Police Commissioners be instructed to allow the name of the late P. C. Waterman to remain on the police pay sheet for the next two months.

Taken up clause by clause, from 1 to 11 passed, and 12 read. Ald. Becher moved, and Ald. Skinner seconded, that the clause be sent back to committee. Discussion followed, Ald Birrell in the chair. Ald. Becher's objection was that the system proposed would not be equitable, as between the general tax-paying public and the particular ones to whom the money derived from the sinking fund was loaned. The Mayor presented arguments to the contrary, and resumed the chair. The clause was referred back on the casting vote of the Mayor, who said he did not desire to press the matter on the Council though he felt sure that when the aldermen duly considered the scheme it would be heartily supported by all. Clause 13 passed, the two months being altered to four.

Ald. Hunt moved, seconded by Ald. Beattie, that this Council authorise the following distribution of the members of the active staff of physicians and surgeons attending the London General Hospital for the six months, beginning April 1st, next, and ending September 30th: Drs. E. G. Edwards, Jr., Mc-

Arthur and W. E. Waugh, and for the six months beginning Oct. 1st and and ending March 31st, 1885; Drs. John Wishart, Henry Arnott and W. J. McGuigan shall be on duty, and that the City Clerk send a copy of this resolution to the Medical Superintendent at once. Carried.

INQUIRIES.

In reply to questions, Ald. Hewitt said he intended to consult the Engineer regarding the sign bylaw, and to see that the cow bylaw was carried out.

HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Moved by Ald. Hunt, seconded by Ald. Beattie, that this Council authorize the following distribution of the members of the active staff of physicians and surgeons attending the London General Hospital: For the six months beginning April 1 next and ending Sept. 30, Drs. E. G. Edwards, Jas. McArthur and W. E. Waugh; and for the six months beginning Oct. 1 and ending March 31, 1885, Drs. Wishart, Arnott and McGuigan shall be on duty, and that the City Clerk send a copy of this resolution to the Medical Superintendent at once. Carried.

EXPLOSIVES.

The Mayor stated that he would at once take the necessary action for carrying out the recently adopted powder bylaw.

SPREADING KNOWLEDGE.

On motion of Ald. Hewitt, seconded by Ald. O'Meara, copies of the tree planting bylaw were ordered to be printed and distributed at a cost not exceeding $50.

JOINT BRIDGE COMMITTEE REPORT.

By Ald. Birrell, chairman:

Committee met members of County Committee on Friday, 21st, and opened the tenders for Oxford street bridge as follows. Johnson & Sumner, stone and wood work, $8,500; Isaac Crouse, $7,000; J. Foreman, wood work, $2,100; Hamilton Bridge Company, repairing and replacing iron work, $2,780, one panel extra, $210. The following resolutions were adopted:

1. That the tender of the Hamilton Bridge Company for $2,780 be accepted, except that the planking and joists be made of white oak, similar to that in the bridge originally. As to proposed new panel, the same to be erected at company's tender of $210, if City and County Engineers approve.

2. That J. Crouse's tender be accepted, provided that the approach on the east side be 100 feet instead of 140, and the City and County Engineers can arrange with the contractor for a satisfactory reduction in the price, and provided further that should the City Council at its next meeting desire the approach as tendered for, the tender be accepted as it stands, the city to pay for the extra 40 feet.

3. That the ironwork of the bridge be completed by Oct. 5; also that Andrew Robinson be overseer at $2 50 per day, and should the both bridges (Kensington and Oxford) be proceeding at the same time; the City and County Engineers shall select another suitable overseer. Report received.

Ald. Birrell moved in amendment, seconded by Ald. Skinner, that this Council refuse to pay more than one-half of said bridge covering the channel of the river at ordinary high water and their share of the approaches, and that the report be referred back to committee to be amended; also that the Engineer notify the County Committee of this resolution. Carried.

FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The following important letter was read from the City Solicitor: "I have considered the questions submitted to me by his Worship the Mayor, in reference to the issue of debentures under the Free Library Act of 1882, and beg to say I am of opinion:

1st. That sub-section 2 of sec. 8 of the Free Library Act does not make it compulsory upon the Council to issue debentures.

2. That it is very doubtful whether the Council can issue debentures under that act, even if they desire to do so, on account of the special act of the Legislature restricting the issue of debentures by the city. Yours, etc.,

W. R. MEREDITH.

No action was taken.

CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED.

On motion of Ald. Birrell, seconded by Ald. Hewitt, the Mayor was instructed to sign the Kensington bridge contract.

Council adjourned for two weeks.